

Appl. No. 09/927,178  
Amdt. Dated April 14, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of January 19, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 81800.0163  
Customer No.: 26021

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the text of para. 39 (beginning at page 8., line 8) with the following rewritten paragraph:

In step 2 S2, the presence or the absence of a toner is checked in accordance with the detected signal from a toner sensor 52. In the absence of a toner, it proceeds to S6. On the other hand, in the presence of a toner, it proceeds to step S3.